

## **GEORGIA TITLE XXI STATE PROGRAM FACT SHEET**

**Name of Plan:** PeachCare for Kids

**Date Plan Submitted:** May 29, 1998  
**Date Plan Approved:** September 3, 1998  
**Effective Date:** September 1, 1998

**Date Amendment #1 Submitted:** January 6, 2000  
**Date Amendment #1 Approved:** April 20, 2000  
**Date Amendment #1 Effective:** October 1, 1999

**Date Amendment #2 Submitted:** January 31, 2001  
**Date Amendment #2 Approved:** June 1, 2001  
**Date Amendment #2 Effective:** July 1, 2001

**Date Amendment #3 Submitted:** February 6, 2001  
**Date Amendment #3 Approved:** June 1, 2001  
**Date Amendment #3 Effective:** July 1, 2000

**Date Amendment #4 Submitted:** June 15, 2001  
**Date Amendment #4 Approved:** August 31, 2001  
**Date Amendment #4 Effective:** April 1, 2001

**Date Amendment #5 Submitted:** September 28, 2001  
**Date Amendment #5 Approved:** February 11, 2002  
**Date Amendment #5 Effective:** October 1, 2001

**Date Amendment #6 Submitted:** July 30, 2002  
**Date Amendment #6 Approved:** January 17, 2003

### **Background**

- On September 3, 1998, Georgia received approval for their initial title XXI State plan, to expand coverage to low-income children, from birth through 18 years of age, in families with incomes up to 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), who are not eligible for Medicaid, through a separate State Child Health Insurance Program.

## **Amendments**

- The State submitted its first state plan amendment on January 6, 2000, which modified the reinstatement process to facilitate resuming coverage for children who lost coverage due to non-payment of premiums. Additionally, this amendment exempts American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) children from cost sharing and premium payment requirements.
- The State submitted its second state plan amendment on January 31, 2001, to clarify language regarding the redetermination process for SCHIP. The State now sends the families letters detailing their eligibility information and asks the family to provide changes by mail or phone. This amendment removed the role of the State Department of Labor from the eligibility determination process. The State information is now verified through monthly matches with the State Merit System.
- The State submitted its third state plan amendment on February 6, 2001, to increase income eligibility to 235 percent of the FPL.
- The State submitted its fourth state plan amendment on June 15, 2001, to make the first day of the month in which a complete application is received by the State the effective date of enrollment in SCHIP. This applies only when the child is subsequently determined eligible for the separate child health program.
- The State submitted its fifth state plan amendment on September 28, 2001, to allow an additional exemption from the 3-month waiting period without group health plan coverage for families who have dropped high cost private insurance (defined as cost sharing expected to exceed 5 percent of the family's income).
- On July 30, 2002, the State submitted its sixth amendment. This amendment updates and amends the SCHIP state plan to indicate the State's compliance with the final SCHIP regulations.

## **Children Covered Under Program**

- The State reported that 182,762 children were ever enrolled in PeachCare for Kids during Federal fiscal year 2001.

## **Administration**

- The Georgia Department of Community Health administers the PeachCare for Kids program.

## **Health Care Delivery System**

- The Georgia SCHIP legislation mandates that "any health care provider who is enrolled in the Medicaid program shall be deemed to be enrolled in the SCHIP program." Therefore, the

current Medicaid child health assistance delivery and utilization control system is the system used for PeachCare for Kids.

### **Benefit Package**

- PeachCare for Kids offers substantially the same health care services available to children under Georgia's Medicaid plan.

### **Cost Sharing**

- There is no cost sharing for children under 6 years of age. For children over 6, the program sets a monthly premium of \$7.50 for one child and \$15.00 for a sibling group of any size. Any child who identifies him/herself as an AI/AN is notified that, upon receipt of documentation, the monthly premium is waived.

### **Crowd Out Strategy**

- A child is denied eligibility if it is determined that he or she: 1) is covered under a group health plan or under health insurance coverage as defined in Section 2791 of the Public Health Service Act, or 2) is eligible for Medicaid, or 3) is a member of a family that is eligible for health benefits coverage under a State health benefit plan based on a family member's employment with a public agency in the State, or 4) voluntarily dropped coverage under an employer health insurance plan during the last 3 months unless coverage was dropped due to high cost (defined as cost sharing in excess of 5 percent of the family income).
- The SCHIP application contains questions about current and past coverage under group health plans and family members' employment with State agencies. State employment information will be verified through monthly matches with the State Merit System.

### **Coordination between SCHIP and Medicaid**

- Common simplified application and redetermination procedures apply to both programs. Automated system determines eligibility for both programs, which allows for transfer between Medicaid and SCHIP to be automatic when the child's status changes.

### **Outreach Activities**

- Outreach efforts are completely coordinated for Georgia SCHIP and Medicaid, so that those children who are eligible for Medicaid are reached and enrolled in Medicaid, and those children eligible for Georgia SCHIP are reached and enrolled in PeachCare for Kids.
- The State uses the nationally recognized Right From the Start (RSM) outreach strategies for Georgia SCHIP. RSM outreach workers have a variety of program information on both creditable and non-creditable coverage and other ways to access health care services, as well

as all pertinent information on both Medicaid and Georgia SCHIP. Outreach activities include an advertising campaign, outreach publications, an outreach video, and back-to-school outreach activities for marketing and public awareness.

- The State has also created a mini-grant program, “Improving Health Care Access: Innovations in Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids Outreach,” to assist local efforts to raise awareness of both PeachCare and Medicaid programs among hard-to-reach populations.
- PeachCare for Kids became one of five partner organizations in a comprehensive community service campaign, “WSB-TV’s Family 2 Family Project.” As part of the partnership, PeachCare participates in several events such as the Baby & Kid Expo, CPR Saturday trainings by the American Red Cross, and Give Kids a Boost. PeachCare brochures are also on display in other Family 2 Family sponsor locations.

### **Financial Information**

Total FFY ‘02 SCHIP Allotment -- \$104,986,194  
FFY ’02 Enhanced Federal Matching Rate -- 71.30%

State Share: \$ 33,553,988  
Federal Share: \$ 83,358,863  
Total: \$116,912,851

*Last date updated: January 15, 2003*